

several concerns with this. First of all, I needed to have clarification as to whether this meant one project, plural projects, whether each project was going to fall under the \$1,800,000 cap, or whether this could be a multitude of projects between now and 1991, all with that cap because, needless to say, in a district as large as Southeast Community College's district, there just are property tax monies which are funneled into the City of Lincoln. And being a rural legislator, even with some fairly significantly sized cities in my district, there is a lot of concern out there about how the property tax monies are being shifted in support of which campuses. We've had some very bitter wounds in my district about closing of campuses, so I can certainly identify with Senator Owen Elmer's problem, even though if it happens in one place, you know, I guess it can happen another if we are going to try to bring postsecondary education under control as far as expansion in this state, and especially considering what Senator Vard Johnson was pointing out to us yesterday about the rate that we are, per capita, supporting postsecondary institutions in the State of Nebraska. I think there is a screaming need out there to take a very hard, serious look at the number of dollars. This state makes a commitment to education that is commendable, but I do think that we need to talk about dollar investment and the return and what we can, as a state, afford. So I did have some concerns about this. I know that population demographics will just tell you that education and the need for community college education is centered in Lincoln. We have a definite need in rural Nebraska for community college education. And I want to be sure that our investment, not only of state dollars but of those property tax dollars, continue to go in that area. I believe I understand this amendment now to say that the \$200,000 cap for capital construction projects will remain in place, and that the community college system will have to come back, other than this amendment, other than this specific exemption, for any capital construction project over the \$200,000. So that stays in place. It was my concern that that remain in place and not be obliterated with this amendment. So, as I understand it now, the community college system has reserves at hand for capital construction. I wonder how all those reserves got there, but they do have them. I certainly concur with the need for adjacent facilities for child care for people to obtain education. I think this is a screaming need in our country and our state and I am glad to see that the community college system is doing that. I encourage them to step forward and make the commitment at the Beatrice campus which is proposed in that